

Mayor's Council on African American Elders

C/O – Aging and Disability Services, Seattle-King County
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Meeting Summary

November 18, 2011

Members Present – Gwendolyn Coates, Chair, Cynthia Andrews, Kameka Brown, Helen Sikov, Katherine Williams, UW Student Intern

Members Excused: Carolyn Johnson Davis, Karen Kent, Marti Lindeman, Michael Lusk, Jeannine Skinner

Staff – Karen Winston, Rosemary Cunningham

I. Election of Officers for 2012

A motion was made/seconded and passed to accept the recommended 2012 slate of officers. Karen Kent, Marti Lindeman and Michael Lusk were unable to attend the meeting, but they submitted their vote via email to Karen W. The new officers are as follows:

Kameka Brown – Chair

Michael Lusk – Vice Chair

Jeannine Skinner – Secretary/Treasurer

II. MCAAE Recruitment

Gwendolyn discussed the MCAAE current membership. A full complement of members is 12, however, at the beginning of 2012 there will be **five** vacancies. Continuing members are as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Exp.</u>
Cynthia Andrews	2012
Kameka Brown	2013
Carolyn Johnson Davis	2013
Gwendolyn Phillips Coates	2012
Michael Lusk	2013
Helen Sikov	2012
Jeannine Skinner	2013

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Members agreed on the following recruitment plan for December:

1. The regular December meeting date was changed from December 16th to **December 8th**. The time and location of the meeting has also changed and will take place from **8:30 to 10:30 a.m.**, and will be held at the **Central Area Senior Center**.
2. The first hour (9 to 10 a.m.) will be a *Meet & Greet Coffee Hour* for all individuals who are interested in learning more about the commission, meeting the MCAAE members and new officers. Morning refreshments will be included. Everyone is asked to please invite all potential members to this meeting.
3. Following the coffee hour, members will have a brief business meeting from 10 to 10:30 to recognize 2011 accomplishments. Everyone is asked to please stay for this portion of the meeting.

III. Committee Reports

Legislative Advocacy – Gwendolyn reported on the meeting that took place on November 16 with Representative Pettigrew. The meeting went well and involved both Advisory Council (AC) and MCAAE members. The purpose of the meeting was to advocate for older adults in King County and to inform him of potential impacts resulting from the proposed budget cuts.

Cynthia recommended sending a follow-up letter from the MCAAE to Pettigrew and also to the Governor. Helen recommended also including revenue generating strategies for her to consider. Karen W. indicated that ADS staff is currently working on a response from both the AC and the MCAAE.

IV. 2012 Work Plan

Discussion of a 2012 Work Plan was tabled for the new slate of officers to address. Details about the 2012 retreat will be forwarded when confirmed.

V. HSD Future State Strategic Planning

Rosemary Cunningham, ADS Interim Director, presented information about the Human Services Department future state regarding the strategic plan planning process.

Specifically, she reviewed ADS goals within the plan which are:

1. Reduction of nursing home admits
2. Reduction in hospital admits (ER visits)
3. Increase stability for clients with chronic conditions
4. Increase in the number of older adult fitness participants

Rosemary then reviewed investment and activities that ADS will focus on to achieve the desired outputs and outcomes.

Rosemary also discussed **Care Transitions**. Care Transitions programs focus on Medicare beneficiaries at high risk for hospital readmission, including those with multiple chronic conditions, depression, and cognitive impairments. The goals are to:

- Improve transitions of beneficiaries from the hospital to other care settings.
- Reduce hospital readmissions for high-risk Medicare beneficiaries.
- Maintain or improve quality of care.
- Document measureable savings to the Medicare program.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has solicited care transitions demonstration projects to study the likely impact of new service delivery models. Five evidence-based models for care transitions will be examined:

- [Care Transition Intervention](#) (Coleman)
- [Transitional Care Nursing](#) (Naylor)
- [Project Boost](#)
- [GRACE](#)
- [Guided Care](#)

Nationwide, funding of \$500 million is available over a five-year demonstration period, which began April 12, 2011. Applications will be accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis. Acceptable applicants will be awarded on a first come, first serve basis as funding permits.

The objective of the Aging and Disability Services (ADS) Care Transitions is to eliminate unnecessary hospital readmissions at Auburn Regional Medical Center, Highline Medical Center, and Valley General by enabling safe and effective transition of patients from hospital to home, and empowering patients and their families to manage their health care.

MCAAE members were invited to participate in a south King County focus group the will take place in early January 2012. Karen will forward more information.

Rosemary briefly discussed the CMS Innovations Grant that Public Health: Seattle-King County is applying for. There will also be opportunities for input for this grant that she will forward to MCAAE members.

Lastly, Rosemary briefly discussed the potential of the African American Elder Program (AAEP) utilizing one of the care transitions model described above. She would like Margaret Boddie, Manager of the AAEP, to review this with the MCAAE in the near future.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m. **The next meeting is scheduled for December 8, 2011, at the Central Area Senior Center.**